

Attorney Docket: 071469-0306776
Client Reference: PC6021A2
Application No.: 10/705,397

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 11 are amended hereby. Claim 9 has been canceled. No new claims are added. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment, claims 1-8 and 10-13 will remain pending.

In the Office Action dated December 30, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carpenter et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0159780) in view of Dando et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,814,813). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carpenter et al. and Dando et al. in view of McDermott et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,469,780). The Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejections of the claims and, therefore, respectfully traverses the same.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the subject matter of claims 9 and 10 was considered to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for an indication of allowable subject matter.

In response to the Office Action, while the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-8 and 11-13, the Applicant has elected to amend claims 1 and 11 to incorporate the limitations formerly recited by claim 9. Claim 13 already contains the features recited by claim 9.

Since the Examiner indicated that the subject matter of claim 9 was considered to be allowable, the Applicant respectfully submits that the incorporation of the features recited by former claim 9 into claim 11 should place claim 11 in condition for allowance, just as it does so for claim 1. Furthermore, since claim 12 depends from claim 11, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 12 also should now be in condition for allowance.

The Applicant respectfully notes that claim 13 was amended previously to present the features recited by claim 9. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is also in a condition for allowance.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

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Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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